



K O O N G G A

Bulletin of the Rotary Club of Ku-ring-gai Inc - Chartered 6th February 1959



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This week: Theo Glockemann: Rotary Australia World Community Service



Rotary Australia World Community Service (RAWCS) assists Rotary Clubs in Australia with the development and management of international community service projects.

Whether it's projects to help rebuild in the aftermath of disaster, programs to bring education to

countries where illiteracy stifles development or bringing health care and medical aid to those who can least access it, RAWCS so often has a hand in helping the world stand on its feet.

RAWCS supports Rotary Clubs in sending teams of volunteers to developing countries to provide assistance upon the development of much needed facilities, especially within the health and education areas.

Advice, assistance and training in building, construction and commercial operations (for example, assistance in obtaining microfinance) are also provided by RAWCS to support developing communities in establishing themselves.

Theo Glockemann has been a Rotarian for 29 years and has held many District jobs and just about all club jobs, including President twice. He has long had an interest in youth – particularly troubled youth. On retirement he started Youth Detention Centre visits to Juniperina Juvenile Justice Centre as a Casual Youth Officer. For 10 years his passion has been introducing Rotary Youth Leadership Awards and Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment to Timor Leste. He was awarded an OAM in the Queen's Birthday Honours.

Last week's guests & announcements

President Graham:

- Welcomed our guest speaker, Mahiar Mahjoub, and Jane Hickson from the Rotary Club of Turrumurra;
- Announced that Caroline Jones' broken leg is not preventing her from running her book club, which will meet

Rotary monthly theme: (none designated)

at Caroline's home at 6.30 pm on Thursday, 6 August to discuss 'Hack Attack' by Nick Davies;

- Reported the resignation of Ross Lambert and invited nominations for chairman of the Community Service Committee;
- Said that the annual membership subscription remains at \$298 and is due now;
- Thanked members for assisting with loading books at the start and end of the Lifeline Book Fair, with special mention to champion weightlifter Georgina Manning; and
- Invited members (particularly newer members) to submit their ideas for projects that the club might undertake, including their 'pet projects'.



Jane Hickson promoted 'Cape to Cape' 2016 calendars produced by Rotary Club of Turrumurra member John Edwards as a fundraiser for the PolioPlus campaign and sold them at a discount to quick buyers.

Tony McClelland urged members to invite their friends to visit the club and to encourage them frequently to join it, saying that he often asks people to join 10 or more times before they do.

Umoja Orphanage Kenya



Jambo (hello) to you all.

As always we have had a very busy couple of months

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The club meets every Monday 6.30pm at Killara Golf Club, 556 Pacific Highway, Killara. Visitors welcome (Tel: 9498 2700). www.kuringgairotary.org.au 'Be a gift to the world' is the Rotary International President's theme for 2015-16

Lots of preparation and organisation for our next group of volunteers who are heading to the project in September, another successful charity gala dinner in May, further construction on our first children's house plus many more achievements at the project you'll want to read about. You won't believe the generosity of some amazing people!! Please take the time to read our jam packed June Newsletter at https://gallery.mailchimp.com/27451c8c3723a00be8f99956a/files/Newsletter_June_2015_1_.pdf.

By the way, we've started a crowdfunding campaign to raise \$20,000 towards the completion of the construction of the first children's home. Why not help us with as little as \$5? Collectively we can raise this by all giving just a little. You won't even miss that \$5, but it will make a big difference with many people giving small amounts to help us finish the house.

Thank you to all our wonderful new subscribers to our newsletters, our new likers on Facebook and to all our generous donors and supporters. Every dollar adds up to help us climb the mountain we began with 4 years ago, and the summit is getting closer and closer to taking in our first children, but first we made sure we laid firm foundations in sustainability for them.

Regards

Cathy Booth

Umoja Orphanage Kenya

<http://www.facebook.com/umojakenya>

www.umojahome.com

Australian Registered Charity Number CH 2110 - Australian Business Number 90165041649 - RAWCS Project Number 51/2011-12

Invitation to visit Days for Girls



Have you ever wondered what happens to the money you just donated? Especially in a country where corruption is endemic?

Many people would love to visit an operating Rotary project, but most are in far away, difficult and expensive to get to places, involve hardship stays and questionable food.

In Gingoog, in the Philippines, population 145,000, we have made extensive provisions to make it easy and inexpensive to visit, stay at a good hotel, get good food in an English speaking mainly catholic region. This is so much more than a mere holiday-stay, this is a trip to remember!

You see the wonderful Days for Girls (www.daysforgirls.org) project in action and can participate in the distribution of sanitary kits and meet any number of children and locals. This can be done as a separate trip, or as a stop-over on your way to or from Asia or Europe. It can be combined with a stopover in Manila for great shopping or at a magnificent Philippine resort.

We offer this on a fixed all-inclusive rate of A\$175 per person per day excluding flights. Our Days for Girls team in Gingoog will take care of everything. Please book early to match the Days for Girls project program with your flight schedule

Contact: Walter Bock, Rotary Club of Burwood 02 9630 7440 wbock@optusnet.com.au

Author Encounter with Former Paralympian Ian Simpson

AUTHOR ENCOUNTER GORDON LIBRARY	Thursday 16 July, 2.30pm ROLLING WITH THE PUNCHES With author Ian Simpson BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL	

Gordon Library is hosting an Author Encounter with Ian Simpson at 2.30pm on Thursday, 16 July.

A spinal injury at a young age might have killed off a career in stand-up, but it did not temper Ian's philosophy of not taking life too seriously. But will this mindset be strong enough to cope with the greatest medical crisis of them all? His story will have you laughing and crying - and often on the same page

Ian has spent most of his 49 years living in a wheelchair, giving him a different perspective on life to most people. He has been a history teacher and learning designer for 25 years. As a Paralympian, he represented Australia in table tennis and wheelchair rugby. He is likely to wince and/or roll his eyes if you call him brave. *Rolling with the Punches* is his first book.

Dr John Yeo AO says: *I found each chapter compelling and moving, yet extremely positive. It is a story in which we share the hurt of the 'punches' but see victory in the 'rolling'.*

Review of the Associations Incorporation Act 2009

NSW Fair Trading is undertaking a review of the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*. The aim is to ensure the Act is working as intended. The issues raised in submissions will be considered in this review.

Fair Trading encourages associations and their members to have their say by completing the [online survey available on the Fair Trading website](#). The survey will close on **7 August 2015**.

Club Secretary Geoff Hungerford has already completed the survey. Better get in quick if you don't want the government to be influenced solely by his views!

Board meeting notes

- Ideas for new projects are being sought – liaison with the Council including Women's Refuge and Community Day may be useful.

- White Ribbon Day was suggested and the club will continue with Daffodil Day.
- The new Gordon Market licence goes to Council for ratification on 14th July.
- The Bobbin Head Cycle Classic committee is looking for a suitable fundraising computer Host.

Last week: Mahiar Mahjoub: The International Genetically Engineered Machine ('iGEM')



Mahiar Mahjoub was born in Tehran and emigrated to Sydney with his family in 2008. He is studying for a Bachelor of Science at the University of Sydney, majoring in mathematics and biochemistry. He plans to move on to study medicine, with the aim a career in charity work and research, especially in the area of cancer and gene therapy, using mathematics for modelling that purpose.

Mahiar began his talk by referring to the devastating effects of thalidomide. He contrasted it with the later use of genetic engineering to develop a type of rice rich in vitamin A, which solved the problem of exceptional levels of sight loss in an Indian village. Genetic engineering has also been used to produce drought-resistant crops and treat cystic fibrosis.

The International Genetically Engineered Machine (iGEM) is an annual international competition for undergraduate research in synthetic biology. Established in 2004 by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, it has grown in size and prestige each year, and now includes over 200 teams from universities around the world.

Mahiar explained that, in genetics, each cell is thought of as a machine.

iGEM teams design and carry out their own research projects, and are given the opportunity to present their work at an international conference (the iGEM jambo-ree). Each project is aimed at solving real-world problems using novel genetic technologies.

iGEM provides students with a complete scientific experience, from designing and troubleshooting experiments to presenting work to an international audience, and it teaches undergraduates key skills for careers in scientific and industrial research, that will enable them to advance the frontiers of scientific understanding. iGEM also introduces full-time researchers and undergraduates to a growing international community that advocates open-source technologies and transparency in scientific research, with all findings from the competition made publicly available without charge.

This year's team from Sydney University is led by Dr Nicholas Coleman, one of whose projects involved the use of bacteria to break down industrial waste going into Botany Bay.

The team's project is not just laboratory work. They use mathematical modelling to develop better methodology. They have created a 'wiki' page to publish information about and explain the project, have



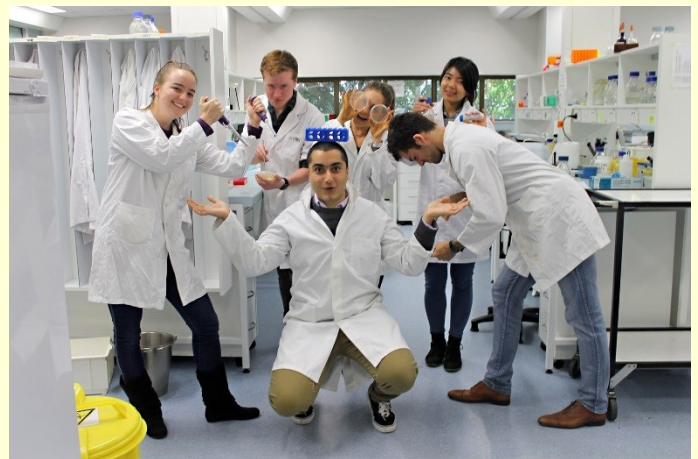
appeared on the ABC's Science Show with Robyn Williams and have created an outreach competition to engage children in synthetic biology.

Mahiar led the club through an explanation the team's 'mycomimic' project and subsequently provided this explanation of it:

"Traditional chemical methods have always been very limited in the range of products they can synthesise. The main challenge is to create highly pure and homogeneous samples which can be suitable for variety of sensitive applications, especially very crucial in pharmaceuticals.

However, even if the desired product is made, its purity and orientation cannot be guaranteed. One way to solve this problem is to utilise biocatalysis: the application of using or modifying microorganisms such as bacteria to make the desired compounds.

Microorganisms can produce the chemicals with high selectivity and efficiency. However, chemicals cannot simply be produced and extracted from microorganisms. In order to direct a microorganism to produce the intended chemical, we have to change the genetic information used by the organism for optimum functioning. In other words, we have to introduce, remove or change the information withheld by the microorganism. The only way to do that is to change the DNA sequence to introduce, remove or change the function of the cell to produce the chemical that we want.



In our case, we are trying to introduce a new gene from another bacteria to a more efficient and easily reproducible bacteria, in this case *E.coli*, to synthesise the class of compounds called 'epoxides' for us. It is hoped that by developing this genetically modified *E.coli*, we can produce a chemical called 'indene oxide' which is used for anti-HIV drug synthesis.

This chemical is very expensive, hard to synthesise, purify and use for further processing into anti-HIV drugs. Hence, more effective and efficient methods of production need to be explored, especially in the face of increased resistance of the virus to some drugs.

Bacteria are able to produce this compound and many other compounds which are thought impossible to make using classical chemical methods. It is hoped that by using this bacteria, we can address the high demand for this chemical and make it available at cheaper prices to assist in the distribution of affordable drugs to tackle HIV,

especially in lower socio-economic populations.

In order to achieve this, our team is using both molecular biological techniques such as cloning as well as computational modelling to design the best system possible for the synthesis of the chemical indene oxide. It is hoped that the combination of modelling and molecular biology can successfully lead to a well-designed genetically modified bacteria which can produce the compound at high yields and in large-scale industrial production."

To judge from the number and variety of members' questions, Mahiar's talk was of considerable interest and was pitched at a level that a lay audience could easily understand.

Next week: Darcy Sharpe: Living with a guide dog

Darcy has had low vision issues since childhood (myopia and nystagmus). With shaky vision and severe short sightedness, school years and later work place with vision impairment was a daily struggle. Darcy received some basic training to use the long cane to find his way around.

He later underwent 2 eye operations which improved his vision for about 15 years. During this period he worked for a number of state and federal politicians in their electorate offices. Darcy was surprised to find that the job had less to do with politics and more about dealing with

peoples' problems and the skills he learnt there have served him well in his retirement.

He moved to Queensland after retirement and, despite deteriorating vision, became involved in various activities and contributed to several community organisations. It was during one of his volunteer activities that Darcy came into contact with a field officer from Guide Dogs Queensland, who recommended that he begin working with a Guide Dog.

Oregon, Darcy's current Guide Dog is a perfect match for Darcy's personality and his active and busy lifestyle. Never one to sit still, Darcy has spent many hours in front of a microphone on community radio stations. Utilising his extensive experience as a volunteer, Darcy currently works once a week with Diabetes NSW.

As a PR and motivational Speaker for Guide Dogs NSW/ACT, Darcy and his Guide Dog Oregon regularly visit schools, clubs, seniors and other community groups to talk about Darcy's own experience with vision issues, how he manages his life, living with a Guide Dog and the many different ways anyone with vision impairment can be assisted by the organisation to live an active and independent life.

Darcy's Guide Dog "Oregon" will accompany him and members/guests are asked to refrain from patting, feeding or distracting the Oregon during their visit.

More Changeover photos



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Below cost
Sell-off
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Hornsby
Kuringgai

Women's Shelter

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SATURDAY AUGUST 15, 2015

6.30pm REGISTRATION & TABLE SEATING for 7pm START
HORNSBY RSL CLUB, 4 HIGH STREET, HORNSBY



Special Guest: Linda Mottram - ABC Radio Presenter

Fabulous Two Course Dinner

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SHELTER ANNUAL GALA DINNER IS PROUDLY
PRESENTED BY THE LIONS CLUB OF HORNSBY

HKWS HAS DGR STATUS



Tara Costigan
Foundation



**WOMEN'S
COMMUNITY
SHELTERS**

Calendar of events

July	20	Darcy Sharpe: Living with the aid of a guide dog
	27	Stan Glaser & Gary Keating: '10 on me'
August	3	Angus Robinson: 'Creating a vision for Australia'
	10	Archie Law: 'Action Aid'
	17	
	24	District Governor Gina Growden's visit (combined meeting with Rotary Club of Lindfield)
September	31	
	7	
	14	
	21	
October	28	
	5	
	12	
	19	

Club officers and committee chairmen 2015-16

Board of directors

President	Graham Timms
Vice President	John Aitken
Immediate Past President	Tony McClelland
President Elect	Michael Midlam
Secretary	Geoff Hungerford
Treasurer	Graham Maslen
Director - Membership	Tony McClelland
Director - Public Relations	Roger Desmarchelier
Director - Club Administration	Michael Midlam
Director - Service Projects	John Aitken
Director - Rotary Foundation	Peter Tang

Service committee chairmen

Administration (Club Service)	Michael Midlam
Vocational Service	Lindsay Forrest
Community Service	[Vacant]
International Service	Georgina Manning
Youth Service	Linda Lam-Rohlfs
Social events	Joy Newling
Bobbin Head Cycle Classic	Tony McClelland
Sergeant-at-Arms	Malcolm Braid
Assistant Secretary	Lindsay Forrest
Assistant Treasurer	Chris Lewis

Club committees 2015-16

Administration: **Michael Midlam**, Geoff Hungerford, Rob Hall (Program), Bob Ivey (Web and social media), Graham Maslen, Michael Tyler (Koongga)

Bobbin Head Cycle Classic: **Tony McClelland**, John Aitken, Ross Egan, Bob Elsworth, Peter Kipps, Graham Timms

Club History: Malcolm Braid, Tom Jackson

Community: **[Vacant]**, Gary Dawson, Ross Egan (Daffodil Day), Greg Goodman (Bowelscan), Chris Hoch (Red Shield), Nick Kenyon, Ted Price

International: **Georgina Manning**, Roger Desmarchelier, Emyr Evans, Dilys Geddes, Rob Hall, Loïc Lacombe, Graham Maslen, Greg Newling

Membership: **Tony McClelland**, Caroline Jones, Ken Sackville

Public Relations: **Roger Desmarchelier**, Linda Lam-Rohlfs, Georgina Manning,

Rotary Foundation: **Peter Tang**, Lindsay Forrest, Chris Hoch, Greg Newling

Social Events: **Joy Newling**, Ross Egan, Dilys Geddes, Georgina Manning,

Vocational: **Lindsay Forrest**, Lou Coenen, David Forsythe, Peter Kipps, Michael Tyler

Youth: **Linda Lam-Rohlfs**, Joyce Enos, Stan Glaser, Bob Ivey, Joy Newling, Don Riddell, Graham Timms